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ABSTRACT

Suggesting that evaluation is an ongoing part of classroom life from day one, this book presents essays by classroom teachers that examine learning and evaluation and the need to bring the two together in more relevant ways. Essays in the book discuss ways to examine the potential of portfolios to reflect different kinds of intelligence; balance individual needs with those of the entire class; discover ways to enhance professional development within school walls; involve parents in meaningful, ongoing evaluation; and recognize and honor students' and teachers' passions in classrooms and beyond. Eight "interludes" (brief essays where teacher-writers reflect on what matters most in their lives) are interspersed among the 17 essays in the book. Essays in the book are: (1) "Staying Off-Balance and Alive: Learning from My Students" (Linda Rief); (2) "Dear John (Dewey, that is)" (Judith A. Fueyo); (3) "Share What You Love: An Interview with Katherine Paterson" (Jack Wilde); (4) "School's Cool When It Comes Down Real" (Mary Mercer Krogness); (5) "We Know Because We Asked" (Mark Milliken and Steven Tullar); (6) "Postcard" (Kathleen J. Mahan); (7) "Evaluation: Making Room for Robbie" (Carol Wilcox); (8) "The Value of Blabbing It, or How Students Can Become Their Own 'Go Yows'" (Douglas Kaufman); (9) "So, What Are These Portfolios For?" (Pat McLure); (10) "Perceptions of Portfolios: What Parents and Fifth Graders Think" (Margaret M. Voss); (11) "Process-Folios in the General Music Class" (Rosalie O'Donnell); (12) "Celebrating Possibilities: A Valuable Experiment" (Maureen Barbieri); (13) "Sharing the Best of What We Have" (Martha Horn); (14) "Children, Literature, Passion" (Karen Smith); (15) "Paired Learning: Toward a Culture of Collaboration" (Pat McDonald-O'Brien with Mark Klein); (16) "Teacher Portfolios: Improving the Teaching Climate" (Jane Kearns); and (17) "A Teacher's Journey among Voices" (Mark J. Goodman). (RS)